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# Delphiniums

of the

## Lyondel Gardens

Home of  
The Magic Seeds  
Cross Pollinated by Hand

LEON H. LEONIAN  
*Breeder*

Morgantown, W. Va.  
1936-37

# Delphiniums

OF THE

## Lyondel Gardens

### WARNING!

It has come to my attention that a number of growers are advertising what is alleged to be Lyondel Hybrids. I wish to caution the buying public to make enquiries before purchasing such seeds or seedlings. If the seeds are not originally placed in packets at the Lyondel Gardens, they are not Lyondels; if the plants which are being offered for sale were not grown at the Lyondel Gardens, they are not Lyondels. It is true that one may purchase seeds from me, produce seedlings from such seeds and offer for sale, yet the customer has no assurance that these are genuine Lyondels. Please remember: no one can afford to buy seeds or seedlings from me and then proceed to undersell me. Whenever such a thing occurs, you may be certain that someone is perpetrating a falsehood. If a seed is not produced at the Lyondel Gardens by means of cross pollenization, it is not Lyondel; if seedlings do not come from such seeds, they are not Lyondels. When someone obtains a good plant from the Lyondel seeds, then collects his own seed from such a plant and offers it to the public as Lyondel, he is guilty of falsehood.

### THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

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#### AN OPEN LETTER TO MY CUSTOMERS

My Friends:

Ten years ago my first delphinium bloomed for me. That was the beginning of the Lyondel Gardens. Since then many thousands of delphiniums have come and gone. Seeds from all over the world have been tested and their best qualities have been incorporated into the Lyondels. Newer offerings by the best breeders have been and will continue to be tested for qualities which may be lacking in my own strain. I appreciate the fact that any introduction of "new blood" into an established line of delphiniums is likely to give rise to unexpected changes. While some of these may be desirable, others may undoubtedly prove derogative. Because I have shared with you not only my tested and proven lines but the purely experimental sorts as well, chances are that you have obtained some seedlings which did not come up to the Lyondel standard. On the other hand, you have undoubtedly obtained some outstanding things which would not have appeared had it not been for this introduction of "new blood."

I realize that hybrid seeds are not reliable performers and sometimes, due to certain genetic combinations, they may not germinate well. For this reason I test all crosses which I place on the market in order to learn of their performance history. If a given line of crosses proves of poor germinating ability, it is not placed on the market; or if it germinates well but fails to produce flowers that will come up to Lyondel standards. I proceed to make amends. I have replaced seeds without waiting for your report. To many of you this has come as a pleasant surprise. I want you, my friends, to take it for granted because your loss is my loss, and your gain is my gain. I shall continue to do business on the principle that your satisfaction is much more valuable to me than your money.

If the Lyondel Hybrids are to continue to improve with each passing year, they must have not only your support, your praise, and your free advertising, but also your frank criticism. Certain defects may not show

under my own conditions; things that may look good to me, may not seem so good to you. I must know such things in order to build for the future.

Before I can tell you my plans for the future, I will make a summary of things already accomplished. Before the advent of the Lyondels, many flower lovers had heard of three inch flowers but only very few had actually seen them. Now the customers of the Lyondel Gardens have seen and have owned delphinium plants with flowers measuring 3, 3¼, 3½, and even 3¾ inches in diameter. Formerly discriminating growers were satisfied if five per cent of their seedlings proved of sufficient value to be saved. But now the customers of Lyondel Hybrids are disappointed if at least 75 per cent of their Lyondel seedlings do not prove to be of better than average quality.

The aster-flowered, cyclamen-flowered, and chrysanthemum-flowered delphiniums were either developed or perfected at the Lyondel Gardens.

A superb line of selfs, such as lavender, lilac, orchid, smoky bluish violet and plum purple tones have come to lend a distinction to the Lyondels.

About 95 per cent of the seedlings of Lyondel delphiniums come semi-double or double; a enviable distinction.

The customers of the Lyondel delphiniums have come to know that they will not have just conventional delphiniums not much different from any other strain, but often they will witness sharp and pleasant departures from the accepted forms and colors.

But what of the future?

A solidly anchored and wiry, tough stem is my next objective. We want delphiniums that will, without any effort, sway in rainstorms but not break. Unfortunately such delphiniums are rare and when available, fail to come up to our present standards of beauty. Results obtained thus far at the Lyondel Gardens where some very tough stemmed but modest flowered delphiniums have been crossed with the cream of modern hybrids show that it is possible to combine the wiry habit of one with the beauty of the other. I am happy to say that this toughness of the stems seems to be associated with a truly perennial tendency, a quality which has been sought for a long time. Meanwhile, a more rigid selection has eliminated the twisting tendency and the soft-stemmed habit found in some Lyondels, and I feel certain that my 1936 seeds will yield seedlings surprisingly better and of infinitely more wiry character than any Lyondels hitherto placed on the market.

More prominent, well balanced and attractive eyes will appear in greater numbers in this year's offerings. There will be a large percentage of broad sepalled flowers, as well as a still more lasting quality of the sepals.

The color range has been broadened with each passing year. This will reach its peak in this year's seeds. Every effort has been made to make the anniversary offerings of the Lyondel Gardens of the highest quality possible.

## THE ANNUAL REPORT

In the following pages the members of Lyondel Family make their reports voluntarily and without solicitation. A great many letters have not been printed because the writers specifically urged me not to do so. Some of the letters printed here are not at all favorable but are included to show that things occasionally do go wrong; but it is not possible to fix responsibility because so many things are likely to happen.

I do not wish to present these letters as testimonials but rather as individual reports of seasonal experiences. We will never be able properly to evaluate the performance of any strain of seeds unless such seeds have been tried under as many different environments as possible. Of course, I do not deny that such letters are good advertisement for the Lyondel Gardens. But after all, if you are satisfied or dissatisfied with a certain product, you must tell others, thereby rendering a service to everyone concerned. And please remember, I want frank criticisms, be they favorable or unfavorable. I shall endeavor to profit from them and pass the profit on to you. Unless you instruct me otherwise, I shall be glad to print as many of your criticisms and comments as space will permit.

All the following letters were received after my last circular was mailed.

Philadelphia, Pa.

*The blooms in my field of Lyondel plants have greatly exceeded my expectations both as to size of flowers and clearness of colors. They have certainly shown me real quality.*

C. Arthur Righter, Landscape Architect

Pittsburgh, Pa.

*In the spring I got one dozen seedlings from you. From these I had most remarkable flowers; one plant gave flowers three inches across. A highly commendable feature is the length of time the flowers remain on the spike, and my Lyondels were still beautiful after others had shed their petals.*

Clyde Myers.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

*Plants developed from your seeds have caused quite a sensation; they are beautiful and we are much pleased with the size of the spike and flower.*

H. L. Mason, Jr.

Seattle, Wash.

*Out of two packets of your seeds only 12 seeds germinated. The plants have bloomed, but the colors are dull and lifeless and none of the plants is worth keeping.*

Jas. M. McConahey

Seattle, Wash.

*Have some of your seedlings just coming into bloom, and they are marvelous both in size and color. I have been growing delphiniums for a number of years and thought that I was pretty good, but I find that in comparison with yours my old delphiniums look like discards.*

J. A. MacNair

Racine, Wisc.

*I have tried very near every grower in the United States, France and England, and have yet to grow as fine plants as I have from your seeds. The whites are the finest that I have ever grown or seen anywhere.*

David Bratt

Greensburg, Pa.

*The seeds we received last year germinated well and the initial bloom this year is the wonder and delight of those who have seen them.*

Derbyshire Gardens

Wauwatosa, Wisc.

*As I am not a commercial grower I am being hard pressed to keep my plants grown from your seeds; they create a covetous complex in the minds of visiting gardeners. One commercial grower who has been spending good cash for delphinium seed, had the following to say after seeing my plants: "I am almost sorry I came; now that I have seen these I do not like a single delphinium I have at home."*

Van V. Lehmann

Concord, N. H.

*I am getting some very beautiful blooms from your seeds, even better than those of previous years, which I thought would be impossible, as they seemed as near perfection as I ever hoped to get.*

Harry J. Shepherd

Baltimore, Md.

*From a packet of your Connoisseurs' Series 120 seedlings came up. Up to present 23 seedlings have bloomed. There was only one single, and just one other which was under two inches across. The size of the others varied from 2 1/2 to 2 3/4 inches across; one was 3 inches and one 3 1/8 inches. Up to this season I have grown some five thousand plants, and before I saw yours in bloom I had obtained just one plant with flowers measuring 2 3/4 inches in diameter. Your delphiniums are much better than anything I have seen. I have gotten more good*

plants from this one packet of seeds than I have gotten in the past from 5000 plants; and there are 67 more yet to bloom!

J. C. Ball

Stamford, Conn.

I purchased three packets of seeds from you. The seedlings are now in bloom. Among some 250 plants there are not 10 fine delphiniums. Almost every one is single, and most of them are pale, without any character.

Mrs. L. H. Porter

Evansville, Ind.

I have had very good success with your seeds. I had one exceptionally large flowered plant with a full 3 1/2 inch flower. Fully 30 per cent were over three inches. This is extraordinary for this climate. Furthermore, your strain of delphinium is by far more adapted to this climate and low altitude than anything I have found; and I have tried about all of them.

Alva B. Brown

Toronto, Canada

I have been using your seeds now for three years and find them wonderful. My garden was a picture this year and the envy of crowds of people who saw my delphiniums.

Margaret Logie

Toledo, Ohio

From your dark crosses I got one plant with flowers measuring 3 1/2 inches, most of the others being three inches. Quite a number of agreeable surprises came from your Connoisseurs' Series.

George S. Elwell

Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Your field of delphinium was a sight not soon to be forgotten.

R. R. Pratt

Towson, Md.

Our Lyondels have been outstandingly lovely and interesting, the percentage of excellent specimens very high; the plants have unusual vigor and fine clean foliage.

The Shipley's

Reading, Mass.

This year your seedlings have been beyond expectations. The stems are stronger; they withstood heavy winds and thunder showers, in most cases without breaking.

Auld House Delphinium Gardens

Haverhill, Mass.

From one packet of your No. 1 crosses only three seedlings have shown up, from No. 4, two, from No. 8, 2, and from No. 5, 10-12 seedlings.

Mrs. Herman Lewis

Kewanee, Ill.

The two packets of your seeds germinated in about seven days and practically 100 per cent.

Dr. F. J. Stewart

New Haven, Conn.

I saw the most beautiful delphiniums at the Gay Nineties Inn raised from your seeds.

Mrs. Harry Bruce Griffin

Royersford, Pa.

Last fall I reported that I did not obtain any germination from your seed. You surprised me by sending me a second packet of Connoisseurs' Series. I planted some of this seed in Steriloam, and the other in soil, but I failed to get any germ-

ination. Thirty days ago I planted the remaining seeds in a cold frame and only four seedlings came up.

F. S. Brown

Philadelphia, Pa.

The delphinium seeds I purchased from you early this year germinated 100 per cent.

C. Arthur Richter

Englewood, N. J.

I planted several different growers' seeds alongside each other in a flat. Yours gave by far the best germination.

E. W. Benner

Moline, Ill.

About one half of my 150 plants resulting from two packets of your seeds is now in bloom. I have never seen anything like them for size of bloom and color combination. Out of one packet each of No. 6 and 7 seeded early this spring I have about two hundred fine looking plants, so I have no complaint to make about germination either.

Berg Madison

Oshkosh, Wisc.

In your circular you have a large sign, "If you are a beginner, stay away." I refuse to do it, and demand my personal rights . . . . From my first packet of your seeds I got 12 plants due to my inexperience and a sandstorm or two. From my second and third packets I now have 350 seedlings, most of them looking like year old plants although planted in January of this year.

Dr. J. M. Conley

Utica, N. Y.

I sowed one packet of your Connoisseurs' Crosses this spring along with seeds of the best strains of other growers and I am glad to report that the Lyondels showed the best germination and the most vigorous growth of all.

Edwin Jackson

Calais, Maine

I am pleased to report that I now have one hundred seedlings just coming into bloom from one package of seeds purchased from you. It seems that every seed must have germinated. I have never experienced such germination from seeds of other leading breeders.

Dr. K. J. Thomas

Jersey City, N. J.

My first Lyondels which I grew from seeds are now in their third blooming season and have grown into enormous plants. They were set in rows three feet wide and plants two feet apart, but it is almost impossible to get through them now. They went through 18 degrees below zero. Thank you for the fascinating pleasure your blooms have given me. If I lose every plant, I will still continue to grow Lyondels.

Dr. H. A. Kuhl

Berkeley, Calif.

Seeds from your No. 1 gave good spikes and large flowers. Plants from No. 2 were also fine, one had a bloom spike 46 inches long. The plants from No. 3 ran truest to color of any delphinium seed I ever planted. From your special crosses I obtained two plants, the dark flowers of which measured 3 1/2 inches across, well placed on good spikes. Another was a lavender of good shade and forty inches of solid bloom. And what pleased me much was a DOUBLE with three rows of sepals, light in color, flat and well formed, sky blue sepals edged with pink-lavender. And here is the bad news — the blues have so far produced only one plant that is blue.

E. D. Crowl



Chicago, Ill.

Thank you a thousand times for the beautiful flowers which I raised from your seeds.

Rev. Thos. Bellringer

Stephen City, Va.

I must tell you of some of the lovely things which have been said about the Lyondels in my garden — "No one could imagine anything so wonderful." "They are the prettiest things I ever saw in my life." "I never knew they grew like this." I could write pages like this. I have flowers 2 1/2 and 3 inches in diameter. I shall always grow Lyondels.

Mrs. J. D. Snapp

Jackson, Mich.

I am very much pleased with the Connoisseurs' Series seeds purchased from you last year. They germinated well and the plants are now in bloom. I have been most agreeably surprised with them and astonished by some.

S. H. Camp

Lansing, Mich.

The seedlings from your seed are beginning to bloom now. While only two or three feet high, some have blooms measuring three inches in diameter. I shall continue to grow Lyondels.

Mrs. W. L. Halsey

Towaco, N. J.

The beauty of your Lyondels has driven me to uproot all other delphiniums. They stood heavy showers without staking.

Mrs. Wilbur M. Jacobus

Oneonta, N. Y.

I want to tell you of my success with your seeds. I have fifty plants in bloom now. They are perfectly exquisite and people come quite a distance to see them. In the lot I have but one single. There are three whites, several opal shades and so large and beautiful they hold one spellbound. I thought I had some very fine delphiniums, but they cannot compare with yours. I have paid as much as eight dollars for a packet of seed, and personally I think that your price is too low.

Mrs. W. J. Price

Racine, Wisc.

I have had opportunity to observe delphiniums which were beyond description in the gardens of Mr. Bratt and Mr. Johnson. These were grown from your seeds.

Harold Voelzke, florist

Jackson, Mich.

My one year old plants from your seed are now in bloom. A number of plants have flowers 3 1/2 inches across. Those who have seen them have been amazed at the size and coloring.

Beverly Gardens

Winnetka, Ill.

Seedlings from your seeds are now in bloom in my small garden and in two or three gardens of some of my friends. We are much excited over the results. Just this evening I measured an almost pure orchid colored floret and found it to be 3 1/4 inches across. An extremely dark blue shade is striking in another plant. Some of the bicolors are also beauties.

Willis S. Hilpert

Wauwatosa, Wisc.

The plants from your seeds purchased last year are in bloom now and the violet shades are stunning both in size and style. All are superior to results obtained from the seeds of other specialists, both English and American. The proportion of outstanding blooms runs at least 90 per cent.

Van V. Lehman

North St. Paul, Minn.

*I wish you could see some of your plants here in our garden — over seven feet tall, with five stalks to a plant and forty inches of bloom on each — florets three inches across, and colors that can't be described. There are several plants with mammoth, crystal white double florets. Every man or woman who comes into the garden just about screams upon seeing them.*

Boody Gardens

Hartford, Conn.

*I thoroughly agree with the unsolicited testimonials contained in your circular. Your plants are miles ahead of other well known strains. In common with some of your other customers, I was one of those individuals who had often read about three inch florets but had never seen them before raising plants from your seeds. One of my neighbors was recently looking at some of your seedlings, particularly some lavender selfs and remarked that they were so beautiful, and did not look like delphinium at all, but ought to be given a new name.*

Thos. A. Inch

Sheboygan, Wisc.

*I have been a customer of yours for the past several years and have been more than pleased with your delphiniums.*

F. X. Schmedmeyer

Stow, Mass.

*From your Connoisseurs' Series have come several exceedingly interesting plants, one with 3 3/4 inch florets. I sent some of your lavenders to a local show and no one knew what they were!*

Nina Estabrook

Framingham Center, Mass.

*The seedlings from your last year's seeds are supreme.*

Cherry Meadow Gardens

Lexington, Va.

*I had wonderful success with your seeds.*

Mrs. S. M. Millner, Jr.

Seattle, Wash.

*The plants from the seeds purchased from you last year have astonished everyone who has seen them in bloom, myself included.*

T. H. Campbell

Elkins Park, Pa.

*I just came back from England where I saw wonderful delphiniums. But I still think that often yours are super wonderful.*

Mrs. S. N. Magill

Hillsdale, N. J.

*I got 108 seedlings from one packet of your seeds and thus far there has not been one really poor one among those that have bloomed.*

T. A. Weston,

Garden Editor, New York Herald Tribune

Seal Harbor, Maine

*The seedlings from the seeds I bought from you last year are just coming into bloom and are so superior to any I have grown that I want some more of them. The flower stalks are more than six feet tall and the color and form extremely good on everyone so far in bloom.*

Mrs. Gilbert Montague

New London, Wisc.

*Your seeds have produced some wonderful colors in doubles. They are beautiful.*

New London Floral Gardens

*Detroit, Mich.*

*I have certainly had many beautiful delphiniums this year from your seeds, and each year brings still better results.*

*Dr. Garland G. Gee*

*Seal Harbor, Maine*

*The seeds that we got from you last year are fine plants now. Some of the spikes are three feet in length and some with flowers three inches across. The smokey lavenders seem to have the largest blooms of all.*

*Charles A. Tumbull*

*Stockbridge, Mass.*

*After seeing your delphiniums bloom in my garden, I am throwing away all my duds.*

*Mrs. Rodney Proctor*

*Jersey City, N. J.*

*Your seeds came up like grass. I believe every seed germinated.*

*Dr. Henry A. Kuhl*

*Portland, Oregon*

*I was visiting my son in Mason City, Iowa, last summer; he had some of the most beautiful delphiniums I ever saw. He said that he got the seed from you.*

*Mrs. Nannie Peterson*

*Towaso, N. J.*

*Your seeds germinated 90 per cent.*

*Mrs. Wilbur M. Jacobs*

*Sandwich, Ill.*

*Your seeds germinated well and the blooms I obtained this year give promise of being superior to any other I have tried. And I might say that I am comparing them with seedling from the best seeds obtainable in this country and England.*

*Roland F. Barker*

*Dubuque, Iowa*

*Words cannot express the thrill I received from growing your seeds. I have never had such gorgeous blooms and SO VERY LARGE!*

*Mrs. Edw. Zejda*

*Newton, N. J.*

*After seeing your seedlings in bloom, I shall confine myself to the Lyondel Garden delphiniums. Seedlings resulting from seeds at \$5 and \$10 per packet cannot compare with yours. I regret I had not learned of you years ago.*

*S. Sayer Shaw*

*North Platte, Nebr.*

*I raised 185 seedlings from two packets of your delphinium seeds.*

*E. E. James*

## **WHAT I CAN AND WHAT I CANNOT GUARANTEE**

I guarantee that every seed produced by me is the result of cross pollination by hand.

I guarantee that all my seeds are the current year's crop.

I guarantee that according to my germination tests all seeds sold by me give excellent germination, but I cannot guarantee that you will obtain a single seedling from my seeds.

I guarantee that my assorted crosses represent just what their description indicates, namely that in white crosses only white flowers have been used for seed and pollen parent, that in lavender crosses only lavenders have been used, or in blue crosses only blue selfs have been used, etc. But I cannot guarantee that the white seeds will produce a single white progeny, or the

lavender selfs will yield lavender seedlings, or the blues will yield even one blue.

I guarantee that all my seeds have been produced under the same standard of excellence, but I cannot guarantee that they will produce excellent seedlings.

I guarantee that in so far as I am concerned, there is no such thing in my own seeds as good, mediocre, or poor, and therefore in ordering you should not ask me to send you the very best I have. That would be casting reflections upon my integrity. The seeds I sell are the seeds which I plant for my own use, and whatever I have, I share with my customers.

## **SEED OFFERINGS FOR 1936-37**

**READY THE LATTER PART OF JULY EXCEPT NO. 10 WHICH  
WILL BE READY IN SEPTEMBER**

### **No. 1. General Mixture**

This is my most popular line and consists of all the assorted crosses described below, except the Connoisseurs' Series.

### **No. 2. Light Crosses**

Both pollen and seed parents of these seeds have light shades. This does not mean that all or even most of the progenies which result from these seeds will be light colored, rather, it means that chances for obtaining finer types of light colored flowers are better in this series than in any other series. The seed and pollen parents are exceptionally outstanding delphiniums. The flowers are very large, often three inches or more in diameter, with spikes up to four feet in length, plants six to seven feet tall, and stems wiry, straight and wind resistant. Particular attention has been exercised in the selection of clear, refined colors.

### **No. 3. Dark Crosses**

Like No. 2 in every respect except that dark colored parents have been selected. Many of the progenies from this series are likely to be light colored, but some dark delphiniums of sparkling tones are more likely to appear here than in other series.

### **No. 4. Orchid Self Crosses**

A very large percentage of the seedlings from this group will breed true to color. All the shades of orchid, lavender, mauve, bluish lilac selfs are included here. So different and outstanding are these plants that to the uninitiated they don't look like delphiniums. For refined, soft colors these cannot be surpassed.

### **No. 5. Royal Purple and Violet Selfs**

Another new break in delphinium color. The seed and pollen parents used in this series are absolutely self, all sepals, inners and outers being of the same color intensity without streaks or blemishes.

### **No. 6. White Crosses**

While the ideal white delphinium is still in the laps of gods, there are a number of whites that will add charm and distinction to any border. For years I have crossed and selected for better whites, but I cannot guarantee that you will obtain good whites from these seeds. Seed and pollen parents of this series are large, sturdy plants with good sized flowers of clear white tones and possessing light or dark colored eyes.

### **No. 7. Pure Blue Self Series**

This is my most unreliable and most desirable Series. While the parent plants are exceptionally good blues, their progenies usually are everything

else but blue. But once in a while a marvelous seedling appears; pure blue, double, sparkling, burning shades of deepest blue or the soft, cool tones of sky blue. For this reason only it is worth while to take a sporting chance. But remember: you may not obtain one good blue.

#### **No. 8. Aster Sepaloid Series**

Both pollen and seed parents in this group are characterized by very narrow, long, often frilled sepals and the individual flowers look very much like asters. Another characteristic of this entire group is the wiry, tough nature of the spikes. The color and the size of the flowers is up to Lyondel standards. A very distinctive group of delphiniums.

#### **No. 9. Black Progressions**

Here are included the darkest, most brilliant shades. The flowers are often small, the spikes not very long, but what colors! The seed supply is going to be very limited.

#### **No. 10. Connoisseurs' Series**

You may expect almost anything from this series. It is entirely experimental because the crosses are made only between plants which are blooming for the first time. You might call this the Year-Ahead-Series because next year's pollen and seed parents will be selected largely from this. There will be more delightful surprises here and similiarly more ordinary things than in any other group. Ever since it was introduced, this group has been the second most popular assortment of all my crosses.

In ordering seeds from the Connoisseurs' Series, please do not rush me. The seeds will be ready late in the season and cannot be planted outdoors. While some of the seed will be ready in September, those who will be willing to wait until October will have a much more representative mixture of seeds. This series is offered in mixtures only.

#### **No. 11. Longer Lived Series**

The seed and pollen parents of this series have been growing under the adverse conditions of Morgantown, W. Va. for the last four and five years, becoming bigger and more vigorous with each passing year, while other delphiniums have perished in alarming numbers after one or two years. I do not know if this is merely an accident or the result of some perennial, resistant tendency. I do not wish to give false hopes to anyone but am merely stating facts. Furthermore, while some of the parents are large flowering, long spiked, showy things, others, and the more promising ones, are relatively modest plants. By crossing these together I have endeavored to combine beauty and resistance. If my less fortunately located customers wish to take a sporting chance, I recommend this group to them.

#### **No. 12. Wiry Stemmed Series**

This is a new and a highly experimental series. Do not look for exhibition type delphiniums with three feet of flower-spikes and three inch flowers. However, here is the beginning of a strain that has a future. Both the seed and pollen parents have very slender, very flexible, whip-like stems that can be vigorously shaken by the hand without breaking, and will sway in wind or rain undamaged. The flowers are all semi double, from small to medium in size, and possessing unusual brilliance.

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MY ASSORTED CROSSES ARE USUALLY SOLD OUT BY THE TIME THE SEEDS HAVE BEEN HARVESTED.

### **SMALL SEEDLINGS**

I will have small seedlings available in the spring. These seedlings come from seeds sown outdoors in August. They do not become large and sturdy plants by the following spring. A baby can lift a dozen such seedlings with

one finger. So many are disappointed at the small size. **SIZE IS A MATTER OF TIME**; any delphinium will grow large, but very few have quality bred into them. You are paying not for size but for quality. If after receiving my seedlings you decide that they are too small to set out in the garden, you may first transplant them to small pots and keep in a cold frame until established. Also please remember that cutworms, rabbits, birds, etc. will attack and destroy delphinium seedlings, and don't hold me responsible if not all of them survive. My responsibility ends with the delivery of the package at the post office.

## **PRICES**

All seeds \$2.50 per packet of one hundred seeds.

All seedlings \$2.50 per dozen.

My prices never change. Through depression and through prosperity they have remained the same. I do not sell half packets, and I do not sell half dozen seedlings. **Please do not ask me to make exceptions.**

## **ORIENTAL POPPIES**

### **SEEDS CROSS POLLINATED BY HAND; SEEDLINGS FROM SUCH SEEDS**

The beauty of pink poppies at once dominates and glorifies the spring garden. In comparison all other flowers pale into insignificance. Either as garden display or as cut flowers there is nothing that can compare with them. By pink poppies I do not mean the puny, weak stemmed things usually found in commerce, but the newer and rare creations which proudly and lavishly unfold dazzling vistas of color rhapsodies.

My delphinium friends know that I like big things. I have given them large flowered delphiniums; now I am giving them large flowered and tall stemmed, proud poppies in all shades of pink. I do not brag about my delphiniums, but I do brag about my poppies. I am proud of them and tickled to death with them. Imagine for yourself a true apple blossom pink poppy seven inches across and three feet tall; have a vision of a light rose colored poppy eight inches across on stems forty inches long; think of a glowing, sparkling salmon rose poppy with flowers seven and a half inches across; picture the loveliness of silvery pink poppies without any spots or blemishes, or huge salmon poppies with jet black spots most arrestingly displayed; whites with a trace of blush, cherry shades of most unusual tones, large, robust lavenders, even smokies, and pale oranges bordering strongly on yellow. Such are the parents of my seeds; and my own trials have shown that many of their progenies equal and often surpass the parents. One packet of seeds, and two years later you will have a riot of colors.

Seeds may be sown either at the end of August when they break their dormancy, or late in winter. Seedlings may be safely transplanted early in the spring when it is cool and there is an abundant rainfall; or in September. Rich soil and sharp drainage will give you wonders. You will dream of pink poppies long after their beauty is gone; and every spring they will come up more gloriously than ever.

Please don't expect all the seedlings to be good, or even pink.

Seeds two dollars per packet; seedlings two dollars per dozen.

## **TERMS**

Cash with order. Please do not ask for credit. I do not have the time or the taste for bookkeeping.

**C. O. D. orders not accepted.**

## **VISITORS**

Before visiting please get in touch with me for the best time to come. There is nothing so discouraging and disappointing as a field of delphinium which is nearly through blooming. Many wrong impressions have been gained by visiting delphiniums at the wrong time.